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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CD NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

25X1
25X1

COUNTRY Hungary

DATE DISTR. 16 Dec. 1949

25X1 SUBJECT Novel Rocket Launcher [redacted]

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1

25X1 PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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2. Description of the rocket launcher:

a. Rocket launcher truck (see "A" on Annex)

The type designation of the rocket launcher was "UU-H/1 Automat". It was mounted on a TR type truck chassis, manufactured in GYOER (P 48/Y 44). Seats for three men were behind the driver's cab. The rocket launcher consisted of four guide rails about 21 feet long, with the so-called "Automat" installed at their lower ends. When enroute, the "Automat" sheltered the missile-carriage, which could be moved along the guide rails by a towing cable (see para 3), and the guide rails rested on a support behind the driver's cab. The rocket launcher truck was equipped with two cable drums, 4 ladders, 4 spades, 2 pickaxes and 2 wooden planks.

b. Ammunition truck (see "B" on Annex).

The truck carried 72 missiles of 20 to 25 kg each. The missile was about 600 mm long and 100 mm in diameter. The car was equipped with 6 spades, 4 pickaxes, 4 wooden planks and 2 spare cable drums.

c. Command truck (see "C" on Annex)

The command truck also had a TR type chassis. It was manned by a crew of 6. A generator was located in the rear part of the vehicle.

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3. Operation of the rocket launcher.

As soon as the rocket launcher truck had moved into firing position (see "D" on Annex) it was connected with the command truck by cables. Elevating and transversing mechanisms were powered by electric motors which were fed from the generator in the command truck. In the "Automat", there were three missiles over each guide rail with the missiles held by a rack. From the command truck the missiles were electrically released and lowered on the missile carriage moving along the guide rails. When the missile touched the carriage a yellow lamp flashed in the command truck. The carriage was then pulled out of the "Automat" by means of a cable and a protective shield slid over the "Automat". When this happened a horn was blown and the crew of the rocket launcher truck sought cover about 65 feet from the car. The missile carriage was then pulled upwards on the guide rails and the missile was ignited from the command truck, this process being indicated by the flashing up of a red lamp. When the missile finally left the carriage, a green lamp flashed in the command truck. The missile carriage was again lowered into the "Automat".

The movement into a prepared firing position lasted about 20 minutes. Twelve rockets were fired within eight minutes. The rockets were either fragmentation missiles with blue-red strips or incendiary missiles with green-red strips. The rockets hit an area about 400 feet wide and 100 feet deep. The targets placed in this area were heavily pierced because of the spray effect of the rockets.

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Comment:

As to the number of guide rails, the transportation of rockets on a missile carriage and the release of rockets by an electrical impulse given from the command truck, the reported rocket launcher unit is entirely different from the known Soviet units "M-8", "M-13", and "M-31".

The central release of rockets from the command truck indicates that the unit may be an antiaircraft rocket launcher.

It is inferred from the data given that the missiles had a caliber of between 100 and 150 mm.

Credibility of the report cannot be determined.

1 Annex: Novel rocket launcher unit in Hungary

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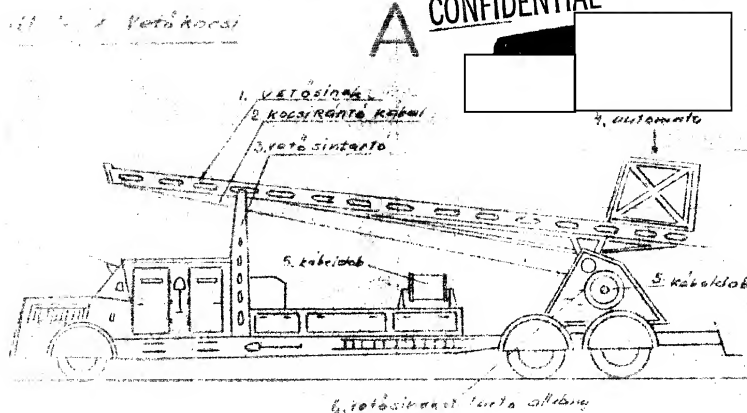
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Legend:

A Rocket launcher truck

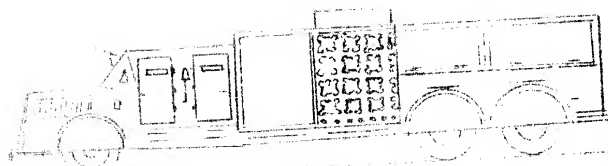
- 1 Guide rails
- 2 Towing cable for missile carriage
- 3 Support of guide rails
- 4 "Automat"
- 5 Cable drums

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1. FÉNYKÉP MÉRŐKÖR

B

1. FÉNYKÉP MÉRŐKÖR

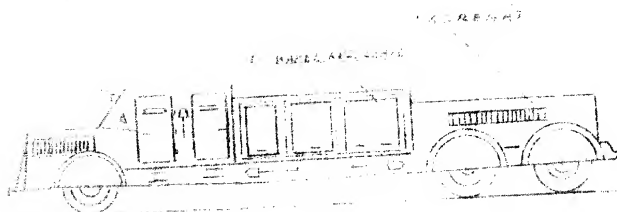


B Ammunition truck

- 1 Opened door
- 2 Missiles

1. FÉNYKÉP MÉRŐKÖR

C



C Command truck

- 1 Contact box for electric cables
- 2 Generator

D

Direction
of fire

Fire position

- A Rocket launcher truck
- B Ammunition truck
- C Command truck
- D Electric cable

Distances:

From A to B about 165 feet

From A to C about 330 feet

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